

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION ARA-04

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 /005 W
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R 131930 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO BNDD HQS WASHDC

SECSTATE WASHDC 1681

INFO CUSTOMS HQS WASHDC

AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY QUITO

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

S E C R E T BUENOS AIRES 2619

BNDD HQS FOR ENC/ MR DURKIN, ATTN MR STRICKLER, DA-2 AND
PASS TO RETIONS 2 AND 5. AMEMBASSIES PASS TO BNDD. SECSTATE
FOR MR HURWITCH. CUSTOMS FOR ME EYMAN.

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR/ AR

SUBJECT: ARMANDO NICOLAI, ZC-72-0002 AND C1-73-0088, STATUS
REPORT

1. INFORMATION RECEIVED BY TWO RELIABLE BUT DISTINCT SOURCES
INDICATES THAT TIOFILIO LA FUENTE AND ATTORNEY MARIO CONTERNO
ARE NOW CONTENT TO WAIT FOR FIRST MOVE BY THE UNITED STATES
REGARDING NICOLAI.

2. LA FUENTE AND CONTERNO, UTILIZING FORMER ARGENTINE VICE-
PRESIDENT PERRETA AND FORMER MINISTER OF JUSTICE AGUIRRE AS THEIR
REPRESENTATIVES, HAVE ASCERTAINED THAT IF THE UNITED STATES
REQUESTS NICOLAI' S EXTRADITION, THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT WILL NOT
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HONOR IT DUE TO THE FACT THAT NICOLAI IS AN ARGENTINE CITIZEN. IN ADDITION, AS A BACK-UP MEASURE, IF THE EXTRADITION IS REQUESTED, CONTERNO, ET AL WILL ARRANGE TO HAVE CHARGES FILED AGAINST NICOLAI FOR FORGERY OR CONTRABAND ACTIVITY (CIGARETTES, ETC.). THIS WILL DELAY ANY ACTION REGARDING THE EXTRADITION AT LEAST UNTIL THE NEW GOVERNMENT TAKES POWER ON MAY 25.

3. DR. VENTURA MAYORIAL HAS BEEN IN TELEPHONIC CONTACT WITH CONTERNO AND HAS ADVISED HIM NOT TO WORRY, THAT HE, MAYORIAL, WILL SPEAK WITH PRESIDENTXCHANGES AND AID PARTICIPANT TRAINEES. BELIEVE IT QUESTIONNABLE WHETHER ALL CU AND AID GRANTEES SHOULD TRAVEL FOR TIME BEING. AS YOU HAVE NUMBER OF DEPARTURES SCHEDULED WITHIN NEXT FEW WEEKS, REQUEST EMBASSY RECONFIRM ACCEPTABILITY OF GRANTEES WITH DEPARTMENT ON INDIVIDUAL BASIS.

6. AID. FOR TIME BEING, SUSPEND COMMITMENTS AND SIGNINGS OF SELF- HELP AGREEMENTS. SEPTTEL FOLLOWS RE SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES.

7. PRESS AND PUBLIC INQUIRY GUIDANCE. INTERIM GUIDANCE ON USG REACTION IS THAT DEPARTMENT IS EXAMINING SITUATION AND FURTHER COMMENT AT THIS TIME IS INAPPROPRIATE. AS FOR SAFETY OF U. S. CITIZENS, DEPARTMENT RESPONDING THAT WE UNDERSTAND COUNTRY IS CALM AND THERE IS NO DANGER TO USC' S. REQUEST YOU KEEP DEPARTMENT INFORMED ON LATTER POINT.

8. LEGALITY OF GOS ACTION. FROM A READING OF REFTTEL AND SWAZILAND CONSTITUTION, CHAPTER XII, APPEARS THAT KING' S ASSUMPTION PERSONAL RULE AND OTHER MEASURES TAKEN ARE EXTRA- LEGAL. PLEASE CONFIRM. ROGERS

SECRET

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*** Current Classification *** SECRET

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